

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
NOVEMBER 20, 2018  
9:00 AM  
MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Chairman Lockley – Chairman, William Massey-Vice-Chairman, Joseph Parrish, Ricky Jones, Bert B. Boldt, II.

**Others Present:** Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Alan Pierce-RESTORE Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Parrish called the meeting to Order.

**Prayer and Pledge**

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Sanders read a prepared statement concerning her retirement.

**Administration of Oath of Office**

*The Oath will be administered by Judge Russell to Commissioner Joseph “Smokey” Parrish and Commissioner-Elect Bert B. Boldt II.*

Judge Van Russell administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Joseph “Smokey” Parrish and Commissioner Bert B. Boldt, II.

**Organizational Meeting & Committee Assignments**

*The Board of County Commissioners will elect a Chairman & Vice Chairman and then the Chairman will assign Commissioners to Committees & Boards.*

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Lockley as Chairman. On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Massey as Vice-Chairman.**

**At this time Chairman Lockley and Commissioner Parrish exchanged seats.**

Chairman Lockley stated next on the Agenda is the assignment of Commissioners to Committees and Boards. Mr. Moron stated there are 2 pressing appointments for positions that were occupied by Commissioner Sanders. He explained one is the TDC Chairman and the other one is the appointment to the Consortium Board. He requested the Board assign someone this morning since the TDC meeting is coming up soon and the Consortium meeting is next week at the conference. He explained yesterday Commissioner Jones asked for a list of the other appointments that need to be made. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Jones as the TDC Chairman. On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Parrish to the Consortium.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

There were no minutes available for approval.

### **Payment of County Bills**

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of the County's bills.**

**Public Comments** – *(This is an opportunity for the public to comment on agenda or non-agenda items. When you are recognized to be heard by the Chairman, please sign the speaker's log and adhere to the time limit. An individual will be allowed to speak for three minutes whereas a designated representative of a group or faction will be allowed to speak for five minutes.)*

Mr. George Pruett, Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department and Franklin County United Firefighters Association, congratulated both Commissioners on their election. He said it has been 8 weeks since the fire department had paging capability or radio capability and he has not heard anything about a solution to the problem. He stated he contacted Williams Communications and they have a proposal. He informed the Board he asked for a copy of the proposal but they did not reply to him. He asked if there are any considerations for getting the system up and running and said he is here to find out what is going on. Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

1. Communication Update: As the Board is aware, almost two months ago a lightning strike to the Fire Department's Radio system antenna located at the Sheriff's Department caused significant damage to the entire County's 911 dispatch system. Williams Communication responded immediately to this emergency and worked diligently to get a temporary system online and then get a new console ordered and installed as soon as logistics would allow. Once the main console was installed, communication was restored to the Sheriff's Department, both City Police Departments, and Weems EMS.

Because the Fire Department communication system was older (circa 1980s) there was a level of difficulty determining what was damaged from the lightning strike and getting back online, so a temporary workaround was put in place. During an event, dispatch would send a notification via text or via the Alert Franklin system to the appropriate fire department, each fire department was given an 800mhz radio (on loan from Williams Communication at no cost) to contact dispatch directly once notified. Each Fire Department could then talk to each other using their VHF/UHF radios. During this time, it was also discovered that the FCC license was not renewed since 2013, so even if the older radio system was brought back online, radio messages could not be legally transmitted over the communication system. After meetings with Williams Communication representatives and Mrs. Renee Brannon, Sheriff's Communication Director, to discuss our options, I recommend that the County purchase and install a Harris Multi-band radio system. This will allow the Fire Departments to communicate with the dispatcher directly with the VHF/UHF radios currently in use, but also allow for future upgrades to newer radios with better technology. As for the analog "beepers" used by some of the fire departments, this system that I am recommending should allow for their continued use but if it doesn't because of compatibility, or if an event like another lightning strike or required updates to the radio system renders those "beepers" unusable, all of the fire departments should move to a phone "app" similar to the Apalachicola and Carrabelle Fire Departments for notification. **Board action** to approve the following items:

- a. Declare this event as an emergency and Williams Communication as a sole source provider.
- b. Authorize a payment of \$129,685.07 for the purchase and installation of the main communication dispatch console at the Sheriff's Department. This amount will be paid from Reserves for Contingency but will be reimbursed by any funds we receive from the County's insurance claim.
- c. Authorize payment from Reserves for Contingency up to \$60,000 for the purchase and installation of two new Harris Multi-band radio base stations, new wiring between the console interface and the base stations (which will help isolate the antenna from the console during future lightning strikes), tower maintenance, a multi-band handheld radio, and renewal of the FCC License.
- d. Authorize maintenance contracts for the new Harris Multi-band base station radios and for all radios (handhelds, car units, etc.) used by each department. Payment for these maintenance contracts will be from the fire assessment MSBU.

Mr. Moron reported Mr. Tal Whiddon, Williams Communications, is present to answer questions. Commissioner Boldt asked to verify that the equipment in Section B is new and upgradable to the new technology. Mr. Moron said it is new but the upgradable part is the Harris radios in Section C that can be used with the handhelds they are using now and over time that is where the upgrade will be. He suggested the Board discuss this matter with the representative from Williams Communications. Mr. Whiddon stated the current console that has just been installed at dispatch is one of the most recent technologies that is available today. He reported it is upgradable to various things in technology such as paging and computer-aided design (CAD). He said multiple radios can also be attached to it. Commissioner Boldt asked if

they have demonstrations that this new technology is working in other counties. Mr. Whiddon answered yes, this company is well established and the console is currently being used by law enforcement and public safety entities. Commissioner Boldt said he wants to make sure they have consistent communication across all interfaces of people who need to be communicating not only locally but also externally outside the county in law enforcement, health and disaster recovery. He asked if this system is accreditable and whether the State of Florida has funded this equipment in other areas. Mr. Whiddon replied yes and said communications are huge in any event but one of the biggest pushes they are seeing in public safety over the years is interoperability (IO). He explained IO is the ability to communicate outside of the daily work area. Mr. Whiddon reported Sheriff A.J. Smith has been a big proponent of IO. He explained what they see is disparate systems that make IO difficult from county to county but not impossible. He stated the current system that is being held in public safety in Franklin County is what they call a disparate system. He explained the Sheriff's Department is operating on one system and the fire departments are operating on another system. Mr. Whiddon stated Weems EMS is now operating off the same system as the Sheriff's Department. He reported in speaking with Mr. Pruett he knows the firefighters want to stay with their same system which is between a vhf and uhf system. He stated these systems can be patched together with the new console. He pointed out the new console with dispatch will also do paging and there are other options but cost will be a factor. Mr. Whiddon reported the option Mr. Moron presented today is a workable viable option to allow the fire entities to maintain their current equipment. Commissioner Boldt said they are taking the old infrastructure and overlaying it with the new system and asked if they have enough to work with. Mr. Whiddon explained this is the same system and they are using the current infrastructure. Commissioner Boldt inquired if the towers are stable and the wiring is strengthened. Mr. Whiddon reported part of the proposal is to do an assessment of the towers and find out what they have. Commissioner Boldt asked if this will be more modern communication. Mr. Whiddon replied yes, and it will move as technology moves. Chairman Lockley asked how long the county will get out of this system. Mr. Whiddon stated he does not know but the new console will take them into the new technology of radio communication. He reported this proposal also includes a maintenance contract which is vital. He explained it is difficult to install or purchase new equipment and then not touch it for many years and expect it to operate in its fullest capacity. Mr. Pruett said he does not understand why the Z-tron console is part of this proposal when it has already been installed. He agreed the console is upgradable and can be tied into any kind of communication system according to a salesman at Z-tron International. He said installation of this and buying a new radio is great and is the proper course of action as it will allow them to maintain their Fire Net and communications with Division of Forestry personnel. Mr. Pruett stated the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD) does not want their maintenance contract on their radios nor their truck radios. He reported the EVFD has always been responsible for their pages, radios and truck radios and will continue to be responsible for them. He stated UHF/VHF technology will be here but of course there are better radios than they have. Mr. Pruett reported he will be glad if the Board wants to remedy the situation with their radios. Mr. John Hopkin, St. George Island Volunteer Fire Department, stated since the new console has been installed their paging system on St. George Island does not require the

Fire Net. He explained it connects to the Sheriff's Office via a telephone line. He reported they just need to connect a phone line to the new console to be able to page them and he does not understand why this has not been done. Mr. Whiddon said he does not know what kind of paging system they have. Mr. Hopkins explained their system is connected to the Sheriff's Office by a telephone line and in the console and then they key their equipment which is located on Island Drive. Mr. Whiddon stated they can assess this situation. Mr. Hopkins said they need to address it since it has been 9 weeks. Chairman Lockley asked Mr. Moron to check into this matter. Mr. Moron said he wishes the United Firefighters were all on the same system as the systems are different in each department. Mr. Moron brought into discussion the phone app and said the last time this was discussed he got the impression it would not work on a smart phone but that is not true. He explained Apalachicola and Alligator Point use the app where dispatch sends a text or message to the phone via the app. He reported if you have a smart phone then it also sends a map of where the event is. He stated if the app is used correctly then dispatch can get a notification of where the person is. Mr. Moron commented if a firefighter got separated then it would identify where they are. Chairman Lockley asked who is paying for the system. Mr. Moron said the county would pay for the equipment. He explained they will get some money back in insurance claims. Mr. Pierce stated the fire departments use their MSBU funds to maintain their radios which are why there are different systems. Commissioner Boldt discussed the insurance claim and said the county is the host for the system and they need some clear defined standard of practice for how this is put in. He recommended staff find a standard of installation practice that occurs around the state so when the county does it they have a clearly defined roadmap to install and maintain. Commissioner Parrish asked if this is what Mr. Moron did. Mr. Moron answered this is what he did with the maintenance for the new infrastructure. He reported they also need a maintenance contract for the handheld radios because they need to maintain them as well. He said he included maintenance that will help with both. Commissioner Jones asked with the radios they have now and without a maintenance contract who is liable if one of the radios gets dropped or is not working. He reported without a contract it is unfair to ask Williams Communications to continue to absorb this cost. Mr. Moron agreed. Mr. Whiddon explained the Sheriff's Department and Weems operate on one system that is covered under the contract but the fire departments are in a break/fix situation. Mr. Pruett stated they do not want a maintenance contract because they replace the radios as needed. He said in reference to the phone apps some of his firefighters do not have a phone. He explained the firefighters are volunteers and should not be required to spend money to have a phone. Mr. Pruett stated the paging system has worked flawlessly for the 28 years he has been there. He said it is unacceptable for the EVFD to pay maintenance contracts out of their MSBU funds. He reported if the Board wants to management the fire departments then there should be paid fire departments. He stated if the county will maintain their part then the fire departments will maintain theirs. Mr. William Eaton, a resident of Eastpoint, stated the fire departments use the vhf paging for a reason. He explained the equipment is supported and is a fire standard and the frequencies are coordinated by the National Fire Chiefs Association. He stated the SEC licensing issue can be solved with a phone call. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve Items A-D just as written.** Commissioner Boldt reported the Board has the documentation. **The**

**motion failed for lack of a second. Commissioner Jones made a motion to accept Items A, B, and C and get a weigh in from the different boards from the volunteer fire departments and let them know if they are going to maintain their radios there will not be any afterhours calls that anyone else will be liable for the invoice except them. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.** Mr. Moron asked what about the maintenance contract for the new hardware that the county is installing because it is covered by Item D. Commissioner Jones said he thought Item D was only about the MSBU. Mr. Moron explained it is two items which are whether they get a maintenance contract for our equipment and how do we pay for it. He reported Commissioner Jones spoke about the volunteer fire departments maintaining their own hand held radios. Commissioner Jones explained he was talking about the MSBU and the volunteer fire departments and they need to comment on that issue. He explained the county will be liable for the console but none of the radios. Mr. Moron asked who is going to pay for the maintenance contract on the new equipment. He stated at one point the Board said they would pay for new equipment but not maintenance contracts. **Commissioner Jones amended his motion to pay for the maintenance contract on the console. Commissioner Parrish amended his second.** Attorney Shuler reported there had been a discussion by Mr. Moron about the local bid policy and this exceeds the \$10,000 cap. He stated the motion needs to include the declaration of an emergency and waiver of the local bid policy. Attorney Shuler said he has not heard any discussion that would justify sole source so they need to declare the emergency and waive the bid policy. He explained the local bid policy is not required by state law but is just a local policy. He stated the amount he heard was potentially \$129,000. Mr. Moron responded \$129,685. Commissioner Jones reported this is money they talked about for improvements to the jail for the console that was blown but the installation has finally been completed and this is the payment for the equipment. Mr. Moron clarified this console is for dispatch and the other console they first talked about which was a capital improvement was the console to control the entrance to the jail. Commissioner Jones inquired if Item A covers the question they are asking. Attorney Shuler said he has not seen the list of options. Commissioner Parrish read Item A. Mr. Moron stated the Board would need to amend Item A since there is no need for the sole source and they can just declare an emergency and waive the bid policy. Attorney Shuler explained Mr. Moron said it was a sole source but the Board has not had any testimony to determine it is a sole source. **Commissioner Jones amended his motion to modify Item A to declare an emergency and waive the bid policy. Commissioner Parrish amended his second.** Commissioner Boldt said Mr. Pruett stated they already have a maintenance contract for their radios. He reported Item D seems to take in all the radios and asked if the Board has a chance to segregate those radios if they already have a maintenance contract. Mr. Moron agreed that is what the Commissioners are saying to let the fire departments decide how they will handle maintenance for their own equipment but the county will install their own equipment and put a maintenance contract on it. Commissioner Jones said he did not think there was a maintenance contract in place for the fire departments. Mr. Pruett asked if this will include the county maintaining the vhf radio system with the county. Mr. Moron answered yes. Mr. Pruett said the county is responsible for providing a radio system for the fire departments to attach to. Mr. Moron commented they are putting in two Harris multi-band base stations and they are going to get a handheld for backup just in case. Mr.

Pruett stated he talked with the Sheriff this week and the Fire Net can be used for backup in an extreme situation if their system was still standing and the Sheriff's Departments was not. Chairman Lockley said this situation should not have taken this long and everyone needs to have better communication with each other and everyone needs to let them know what is going on. Mr. Pruett agreed and said he has tried to keep the Board informed by email. He stated he will add Commissioner Boldt's email. Sheriff A.J. Smith said the new radios at the jail that work the fire department system will be much better and they will have a maintenance contract so Ms. Renee Brannan, 911 Coordinator, will monitor the equipment and make sure the radios are maintained. He explained in the past there was no maintenance contract and the equipment wore out and no one was checking on it. He reported with the new equipment they will be monitoring it so they will let the Board know if there is a problem. Sheriff Smith reported when it needs to be updated they will know and can contact the Board. He stated this should solve a lot of the communication problems. He reported Mr. Moron did a good job putting this all together. Mr. Moron stated they will also ask Williams Communications to be responsible for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) license so there will not be a lapse. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Tamim Choudhury, Small Business Administration, provided an update on disaster recovery they are doing in the county. He explained they are offering low interest long term loans for homeowners, renters, business owners, and non-profits affected by Hurricane Michael. He provided the loan amounts that could be received. He reported homeowners and renters are referred by FEMA. Mr. Choudhury said they received 1,400 FEMA referrals but SBA has only received 255 loan applications. He explained this means a good portion of homeowners and businesses are not taking time to fill in the loans. He said if anyone knows of someone please encourage them to fill in the loans. He pointed out if the loan is declined then the loan goes back to FEMA to see if the person can receive other assistance. Mr. Choudhury stated 70 loans have been approved totaling \$2,589,000 for Franklin County residents. He reported the approved loans are for 60 homes and 70 businesses with physical damage. He said 3 economic injury loans have also been approved. Mr. Choudhury said the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Carrabelle has received over 430 visitors. He reported there is also a mobile disaster recovery center set up at the Eastpoint Visitors' Center until Wednesday and then it will come to a site on Market Street for 3 days. He said he will leave his contact information in case there are any follow up questions. Commissioner Boldt asked if Mr. Choudhury is saying the SBA loan is a good safety net whether you need it or not. He stated citizens can apply but are under no obligation. Mr. Choudhury answered yes, it can be used as an option and they can decline the loan or take a lesser amount. He said they do not want to see anyone miss out on getting help and the deadline is December 10<sup>th</sup> for physical injury and July 11<sup>th</sup> for economic injuries. He reported there are no application fees.

Mr. Richard Radford, a resident of Eastpoint, asked the Board to keep the Eastpoint firing range open until the rifle range is open in Apalachicola. He explained rifle season starts on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and there do not have anywhere to go to shoot. He went on to say they cannot go in the

woods because it is a Wildlife Management Area (WMA). He asked the Board to consider keeping the Eastpoint firing range open until the Apalachicola firing range is operational.

Mr. Zach Hodges, Florida Department of Health, appeared before the Board. He stated Mr. Brad Addison, Florida Department of Health Environmental Supervisor, is also present. Mr. Hodges said they are here today to address the post-disaster septic tank issue. He reported an Environmental Health Strike Team of 14 people came in to Gulf County and Franklin County after Hurricane Michael to complete a preliminary assessment of damage to septic and aerobic systems. He explained there were hot spots along Highway 98 and in the Plantation. He said Mr. Addison will explain how they are going to address the systems that were damaged and the three items they will allow. Mr. Addison reported after the storm they had some slightly damaged septic systems and they allowed licensed septic tank contractors to make minor repairs without a permit. He stated they are now dealing with systems that have repairs that are moderate or serious and the contractors and property owners must apply for permits to repair or replace the systems. He reported 35 systems have been permitted and there will be more to come. Mr. Addison stated the hot spots were in the Plantation mostly near the cut, Alligator Point, along Highway 98 and Dog Island. He said there are at least 11 systems on Dog Island that must be addressed but he thinks there will be more. Mr. Addison explained along Highway 98 between St. James Bay and Carrabelle there is a possibility that after the storm some lots may not have enough property for a septic system or well and septic system but may be able to tie to the Carrabelle sewer system. He said this will be expensive but is an option. He reported the Health Department is requiring new lot surveys for properties that lost physical property from the storm because of well location and septic systems. He said the Health Department must make sure these systems meet their standards and the county's standards before they can approve a permit. Chairman Lockley asked how much space is required between the well and septic system. Mr. Addison replied the county requirement is 100 ft. and the Health Department requires 75 ft. for new systems or 50 ft. for systems that were installed prior to 1983. He explained if property owners cannot meet the 75 ft. or 50 ft. requirement then they must get a state variance and if they cannot meet the 100 ft. requirement then they must get a variance from the county. Chairman Lockley asked what will happen to people that lost land in the storm and cannot meet the variance. Mr. Addison explained they would either need a state variance or county variance depending on the requirement. Mr. Pierce commented staff would probably consider a county variance if the homeowner needed to put the septic system 75 ft. from the well as the property owner is accepting the risk. He went on to say as far as the septic system and drain field being close to the Gulf of Mexico then that is different. He reported there has been a change to the landscape and it is significant on Alligator Point and it could impact people's homes and they may not be able to build the houses back. Mr. Pierce stated there will be a significant concern as they work through this issue in the next few months. He reported the good news is the State of Florida is providing funds for the county to acquire property and the county is encouraging people to sell their property and move. He pointed out at this time there is a funding source for the acquisition and it will stop people from having to fight the erosion and septic system issue. Mr. Addison explained if their system washed out and the property is within 150 of the Gulf of Mexico then



the property owner will now have to meet the current county standards for aerobic system units (ATU). Mr. Pierce agreed anything that is replaced on Alligator Point will now have to be an aerobic treatment unit (ATU). Mr. Addison said there are also some areas on Dog Island and along Highway 98 that will be 150 ft. from mean high water and they will also have to go back with an ATU. Mr. Moron reported they are getting many questions about property that does not meet the 50 ft. requirement but the house is in perfect condition. He questioned if these houses will be condemned. Mr. Addison said the 50 ft. is the exclusion for the shoreline protection. Mr. Pierce asked if these questions are coming from areas other than Alligator Point. Mr. Moron answered no. Attorney Shuler stated a broad answer cannot be given because answers need to be given for a specific set of facts. Mr. Pierce said these questions are probably coming from Alligator Point and hopefully in the area they have designated as an acquisition site.

## **Department Directors Report**

### **Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works**

Mr. Nabors welcomed incoming Commissioner Boldt and said they look forward to working with him.

Mr. Nabors said they are continuing to clean the county from the storm. He stated they are also grading roads but it has been wet because of all the rain.

Mr. Nabors reported they are maintaining the 1,500 ft. at Alligator Point once a week.

Mr. Nabors stated he is receiving a lot of calls about debris pickup and whether or not they are going to make another pass, when they are going to finish and the deadline.

Mr. Moron read Item #2 from his report:

2. Mr. Howard Nabors, Road and Bridge Superintendent, informed me that he was contacted by FDOT about repairing damages to Timber Island Bridge as a result of Hurricane Michael. I requested a quote from BroadSpectrum (Ferrovial), as they recently replaced the bridge joints on Timber Island Bridge. Attached to my report is the quote to address FDOT's maintenance items. Since the quote was below the County's bid requirement \$10,000 amount, and Mr. Nabor's stated that FDOT was calling frequently about these repairs, so I authorized the repairs. **Board action** to authorize payment for this work, which will be paid from the Road Paving Repair and Maintenance account. This account will be reimbursed by any funds received from the FEMA claim.

**On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize payment for this work.**

Commissioner Boldt brought into discussion the exit at Seahawk Lane where the K-12 School is located. He said Highway 98 is a state road but he expressed concern that when you are exiting

this road there is no orientation to the horizon and it has a large drop off. He asked if the county could place some reflective cones in this area. Mr. Nabors asked if that would be on the state right-of-way. Commissioner Boldt answered yes. Mr. Nabors said they would need to contact the state. Commissioner Boldt requested Mr. Nabors contact the state. Commissioner Jones said he thinks there were cones there but they were washed out by the storm and have not been replaced.

**Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director**

Mr. Davis said he would like to omit the second item due to the attorney's review. He read the following request for the Board:

**LEWIS & CLARK CIRCUS AT KENDRICK PARK IN CARRABELLE**

FOR BOARD ACTION: Due to Hurricane Michael, Lewis & Clark is requesting to reschedule their Circus event for March 29, 2019 at the Will S. Kendrick Sports Complex. **ACTION REQUESTED: Motion authorizing Lewis & Clark Circus to setup at Kendrick Park on March 29, 2019.**

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize Lewis & Clark Circus to setup at Kendrick Park on March 29, 2019.

**EASTPOINT FISHING PIER RESTROOM:**

FOR BOARD ACTION: Requesting Chairman's signature for the pump out service agreement for the Eastpoint Fishing pier provided by Collins Construction Inc. Having a contract that lists the schedule for pumping the septic tanks is something that the Health Department requires to certify the tanks and keep the County in compliance.

**BOARD ACTION: Chairman's signature on pump out contract for the Eastpoint Fishing pier Restrooms, for compliance with the Health Department.**

**The above item was not addressed.**

Commissioner Jones stated the berm at the shooting range is presently 3 ft. tall but the problem is people are putting objects they are shooting at on the berm so the shells are not being stopped. He questioned if there is a place behind the berm to put another berm and make it u shaped to help stop the problems. Mr. Davis said they could do this if they did a little land clearing. Commissioner Jones stated this would solve the problem with the stray bullets and this is the only shooting range in the county so he would like to find out about this. Commissioner Parrish said he is also receiving calls and there was public comment today because deer season is starting and there is no place to sight the guns. He reported this was discussed previously and he asked the same question about improving the berm to protect the

jail, the landfill and all the places behind the range. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to get in contact with Mr. Nabors and build a berm as Commissioner Jones reflected in a u shape to protect everyone and give people a place to sight their rifles and pistols until they can come up with a better solution.** Commissioner Parrish said the range west of Apalachicola is not going to happen because it is not open to the public. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley said the main thing is to make sure the berm is high enough to protect people because people do need a place to sight their rifles. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Commissioner Boldt asked if the firing range will be open to the public after the modification. Mr. Davis said that is up to the Board. Chairman Lockley asked if the Board can get the shooting range inspected after they do the berm. Commissioner Boldt suggested they get it inspected and certified. Mr. Moron questioned if the engineers can inspect the firing range. Commissioner Parrish stated the county needs to move forward and construct a better firing range away from the Humane Society, the landfill and the Sheriff's Department. He said in the meantime people need a place to shoot. He reported they need to move forward with the berm but look at how they can construct a better facility. Mr. Davis inquired if the Board wants to open the shooting range once the berm is in place. The Board answered yes. Chairman Lockley asked Mr. Davis to come back to the Board and let them know when they finish the modification.

#### **Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director**

Mrs. Brownell presented her report, as follows:

##### **Action Items:**

1. Request Board Approval for final date for Debris Removal for all county right-of-way removal be set for November 26, 2018. FCEM already sent out a notice on October 31, 2018 that we would start a final pass in Zone 1 and move East. This is over a month since the storm and most residents have already placed their debris on the right-of-way.

Mrs. Brownell reported two passes have been done and this date would be the final pass. She said the state finished their first pass last week but have not made the second pass. Chairman Lockley reported the city pushed some debris off the road and part of it is on the right-of-way and part is on private property. He explained the trees are big and not cut up and he thinks it was not picked up because part of it is on private property. Mrs. Brownell said Mr. Matt Shelton, Tetra Tech, is present and is the debris monitor that monitors the debris hauler. Mr. Shelton explained the contract with Crowder Gulf is to cut hazardous trees but if the tree is on the ground it is not hazardous and is not included in the contract or covered by FEMA. He reported they cannot pull a tree out if it is connected to something on private property because they may damage the private property. Chairman Lockley stated the trees fell in the road during the storm and were pushed to the side when the road was cleared but are not connected to the property. He said the storm is partially in the right of way and partially on private property. Mr. Shelton asked if this is debris that is not being picked up but is partially in

the right-of-way. He went on to say if it may damage private property when it is picked up then the contractor may not want to collect the debris. Mr. Pierce said someone needs to cut up the tree and then it may be collected. Chairman Lockley clarified the property owner is complaining because the tree was not on their property but the city pushed it into their yard to clear the road. Mr. Shelton said the hauler can collect this debris and it can be reimbursed by FEMA. He stated the hauler is liable if there is damage to private property so they have the right to deny the removal. Chairman Lockley reported the tree was on the city right-of-way and fell in the road. Commissioner Massey said the ones the City of Carrabelle pushed out of the road they cut up. Mr. Shelton stated if this is a specific incident then they can look at it. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have a waiver form that the property owner could sign. Mr. Shelton stated that could be arranged but they should look at it on an individual basis. Mrs. Brownell said they will contact the City since it is their tree and they can cut up the tree and put it on the right-of-way and then it can be picked up. Commissioner Jones questioned the reference to hazardous debris versus debris from the storm. Mr. Shelton clarified hazardous trees which are a danger to the right-of-way are being cut under the FEMA contract. Commissioner Jones stated he is still not good with this date. He said Franklin County is not the worst area affected but the county will be responsible for whatever is left when the contractors are released. He reported everyone wants to finish pickup when they are only half way there and then the county is going to assume the responsibility for all of it. Commissioner Parrish stated this is his concern as well. He said he does not know the FEMA rules or when they should end this but there are piles of huge things in his area that the county does not have the equipment to pick up. He questioned what the county will do if they release everyone and how are they going to pick up these items. He said the county cannot do it and that is why they have debris collectors. Mrs. Brownell reported this date would be the last day people can put debris out. She explained fresh items are being placed out now because people are working in their yards and that debris is not eligible and is being mixed with debris that is eligible. She reported pickup will be the last day and then the collectors will go street by street and document when each street is clean. Mrs. Brownell stated what she is seeing is people clearing their property and cleaning out garages and it cannot go on indefinitely. Chairman Lockley stated they need to clean up the county. Mrs. Brownell said she contacted DOT about cleaning up on Highway 98. Commissioner Massey asked when they are planning to clean up Highway 98. She explained the contractors follow DOT rules and work when DOT allows them to work. She said she does not know and tried to get an answer but will contact them again. Mrs. Brownell reported some people are pushing whole houses to the side of Highway 98 even though they were told that is not eligible. Chairman Lockley asked about the debris monitors. Mrs. Brownell said the county debris monitors are monitoring county roads not state roads. She reported DOT has their own debris contractor for state roads and she was told they have a debris monitor but she does not know. Chairman Lockley stated his district is not clean. Commissioner Parrish said he and Commissioner Jones have already commented about their districts. Chairman Lockley reported he is not satisfied because only 80% of his district is clean and he wants 100%. Mrs. Brownell said that is what the final day is for and then they take it street by street and document that everything has been collected. Commissioner Boldt inquired if it is possible to have a post clean-up debriefing and checklist to make sure

everything is done before they finish. Mr. Shelton answered yes and explained they have a mapping program that they can provide that shows where everything was picked up throughout the whole project. Chairman Lockley commented the work they have done is good but there is more to be done. Mrs. Brownell said they know it and every time they look there is another load so they need a date and people cannot put things out after that date. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have any disqualifying signage to place on the debris that says it is not eligible for pickup. Mr. Shelton said they have not tagged any debris and there are different types of debris. He discussed the kinds of debris being collected and said they are doing skip-pile reports in their system and have GIS tracking for where ineligible debris is but nothing is marked on the pile. Commissioner Boldt said there are illegal piles on Highway 98. Mr. Shelton reported this is not in their contract as the state is doing Highway 98. Mrs. Brownell reported in the beginning they pushed out information about eligible and ineligible debris and how to place the piles and that information is still being provided. She stated illegal dumping is occurring even though they pushed out this information. Commissioner Parrish and Mrs. Brownell discussed the cutoff date for picking up debris. Mrs. Brownell explained after that date the contractor will go street by street and certify the area was cleaned, document it and a report can be produced. She reported the City of Carrabelle has already signed off that their area is clean. She said the contractor will do the same with all the county roads and the City of Apalachicola and Mayor Van Johnson will have to sign off for the City of Apalachicola. Commissioner Boldt asked who signs off for the unincorporated areas. Mrs. Brownell answered the Board as it is the county. Commissioner Boldt said he likes the idea of a cut off because it gives people a clear target. Chairman Lockley questioned how long it will take to pickup after the final date. Mrs. Brownell answered the time it takes for them to go down every street. Chairman Lockley inquired if they will come back if he gets calls in his district. Mrs. Brownell reported people will have an opportunity to get their debris out and it will have been almost 2 months since the storm. Mr. Pierce said it will be a county problem after the collectors leave. Mr. Shelton explained they cannot be released from the contract until the county releases them. Commissioner Jones stated there is more debris than the side of the road can contain and that is going to be a problem. Commissioner Parrish agreed it is going to be an ongoing problem. He said they do need a cutoff date. Commissioner Jones expressed his opinion that the suggested date is too quick. Commissioner Boldt asked if there is a containment of money in the contract or if the county pays more if the contractors go into December. Mrs. Brownell said the contract is until the county is clean. Mr. Moron suggested the Board address this matter on December 4<sup>th</sup> as they may have a better feeling about how their districts look. Chairman Lockley said that will be good for his district and in the meantime he would like a notice put in the newspaper letting people know. Mrs. Brownell stated it was pushed out on Alert Franklin but she will put an ad in the newspaper. Attorney Shuler explained this is an unusual response because of the size of the storm and because FDEM and FDOT are paying 100% of the cleanup. He suggested Mrs. Brownell check with those entities to find out if there is a deadline for when they stop paying. Mr. Shelton reported if there is a deadline date then they need to establish a date for the last time to put items out so they have time to get through the whole county before the deadline date. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by**

**Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to table Item #1.**

Request for Board direction on how to handle the private property debris removal.

1. County can pick up the debris and then request FDEM to reimbursement which may be denied. I am not recommending this approach.
2. Send all Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR) paperwork on private roads to FDOT and FEMA to determine if PPDR is eligible and reimbursement will be on FDOT and not the county.

Commissioner Parrish reported there has not been any debris removal on private property and questioned why this is starting. He stated people were told the county cannot come on private property and they hired people to remove trees and clear debris and now the Board is being asked if they want to work on private property. He said this is not fair to people who have already paid for this work and asked why the county is even discussing this. Mrs. Brownell responded FDEM brought this subject up. Commissioner Parrish asked if FDEM wants the county to go on private property. Mrs. Brownell said there is a possibility FEMA may reimburse for private property. She stated FDEM and FDOT determine the eligibility not the county but she does the paperwork. Chairman Lockley said the state needs to determine if they will pay or not and not put the county in this position. Mrs. Brownell explained every small county is trying to find out what to do. She reported in some of the past storms FEMA did do some private property removal. She stated there are things that are required such as a hold harmless agreements that must be executed by every property owner on the private road. Mrs. Brownell explained the Health Department must also say it is a health hazard. She reported the fire department must also participate. She stated there is a lot of paperwork to do but in the past the county has not seen the magnitude of debris they are pushing out. Mrs. Brownell explained if the Board does not want to do this then that is okay with her but she was trying to stop the Board from getting calls from people who are asking about their debris on private property. She reported if she does the paperwork and pushes it forward then it is no longer on this Board but will be on the federal and state government. Commissioner Parrish said in relation to her first item how do they determine a deadline date if they are going on private property. Mrs. Brownell replied this work would be done with FDOT contractors. Commissioner Parrish commented they cannot even get the items off Highway 98. Mrs. Brownell said people who live on private roads need to make arrangements because it might take FDOT six months to get a contractor to address private property debris removal because it was not in the county's contract. Commissioner Boldt asked if the homeowner has the work done and keeps the receipts could they be reimbursed. Mrs. Brownell said they are not eligible because FEMA only reimburses public entities. She explained all the county can do is complete the paperwork and FEMA will decide or the Board can decide not to consider private property at all. Mrs. Brownell stated she receives calls every day from the St. George Island Plantation. Commissioner Boldt asked if Mrs. Brownell wants to have the paperwork in case FEMA does this work. Mrs. Brownell answered yes and said all the county does is submit the paperwork. Commissioner Boldt stated the county would be providing a service by doing the paperwork. Commissioner Parrish said as long as the county is not held accountable and does not have to pay the costs.

He expressed concern that the county has spent \$200,000 today on radios that was not in the budget. Commissioner Parrish said the county needs to be careful in assuming these items and where the money is coming from and how much is reimbursable. He pointed out if they use up the Reserve for Contingency Fund then they will need to tax the citizens to put the money back in preparation for the next year. He said he is concerned about how this money is being spent and how it is going to get put back which will be on the taxpayers. Commissioner Parrish reported he is leery of doing anything when they do not know where the money is coming from. He said they may reimburse for this work or they may not but the county cannot pay for this as they must pay for all the overtime that has been occurring over the last month and they do not have contingency to pay all these items. He stated there is \$1 million and when that is gone there is no more. He explained some of the money will be reimbursable but how long will it be before the county receives the reimbursement in a few months or two years.

Commissioner Parrish said if another storm happens next year and the county has not been reimbursed then there will not be any money in contingency. He said his concern is the money and the only way to replenish the contingency fund is to tax the people. Commissioner Parrish reported in the twelve years he has been on the Board they have never depleted the contingency fund and each year it rolls over and they do not have to tax the taxpayer to put it back. Commissioner Boldt stated he thinks they can protect it. Mrs. Brownell explained the county is not picking up anything or being responsible for anything. She said it will be the responsibility of FDOT or FEMA if they decide to do private property. She clarified she will start the paperwork if so directed by the Board. Commissioner Parrish asked how many private roads have approached her on this issue. Mrs. Brownell said the Plantation calls regularly and citizens from different areas such as Commissioner Massey's district. Commissioner Massey reported it is citizens at Carrabelle Beach. Chairman Lockley asked if the County can get a definite answer from the state about this matter. Mrs. Brownell answered they will have to submit the paperwork. Mr. Pierce explained if they tell the state to look at the property then the state looks at it and the county is not responsible. He explained if the county says private property owners are responsible then the state will not look at any private property. He reported his understanding of what Mrs. Brownell is saying is the county is just suggesting the state look at these areas. He explained if the state determines it is eligible then they pick up the debris and pay for it. Commissioner Jones said either way the county is not on the hook. Mrs. Brownell agreed the county is not responsible but this is just some paperwork on their behalf. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to submit the paperwork. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Bold clarified it just tells the state they are ready for them to look but the county is not obligated. He reported the county is maintaining their hands-off policy on private property. Attorney Shuler stated everything Mrs. Brownell represented is consistent with his conversation with the general counsel for FDOT. He explained they want paperwork first and then they will make a decision on whether it is reimbursable. He stated he has told the general counsel if the state will not tell them in advance they are paying to pick up the debris then the county cannot afford to pick it up. Attorney Shuler said they will make sure the county treasury is protected. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

2. Request for Board direction on the how to handle debris removal on Dog Island Conservation District. Dog Island Conservation District is requesting the same Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the county that the municipalities have in order for them to qualify for the 100 percent FDOT debris removal reimbursement.

Attorney Shuler agreed they want the county to grant to the Dog Island Conservation District the same Interlocal they have done for the City of Apalachicola and the City of Carrabelle. He said he will draft the MOU so the county will not be financially responsible in the event the FDOT and FDEM do not pick up 100% of the costs of the debris pickup. He explained the Dog Island Conservation District will have to levy whatever assessment on the property owners to pay the contractor for the debris pickup. He stated Franklin County will not be responsible for their debris pickup just like they are not responsible for the cities debris pickup. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Attorney Shuler to draft a MOU for the Dog Island Conservation District.**

Mrs. Brownell asked the Board to address the item that was tabled yesterday. She requested the Board retroactively cancel the contract with CDR Maguire. She reported Commissioner Parrish had some questions yesterday and she is ready to answer the questions. Mrs. Brownell stated the contract was cancelled on October 11<sup>th</sup> with CDR Maguire their consultant that is helping them in EOC with coordinating the debris monitoring and debris pickup to make sure the county gets reimbursed and writing their Project Worksheets (PW's). She explained the county conducted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in 2017 and hired a consultant. Mrs. Brownell reported after Hurricane Michael her department needed assistance in the EOC so they gave CDR Maguire a task order to cover the work. She said in reviewing their RFQ they found out the CFR200 was followed but price was not a factor so they decided they needed to rebid this work as an Request for Proposals (RFP). Mrs. Brownell explained in the past they have always done a RFQ and a task list of what the consultant will charge and her department determines if they have the money to pay or not. She said they had a price list but with the new CFR200 regulation price must be included in the scoring which they did not do so the RFQ is ineligible and non-compliant. She said the Board questioned how this work is going to be paid but for the first 30 days she can submit reimbursement as is and justify it as an emergency purchase as they needed help in the EOC to coordinator the paperwork. She explained they can write up the justification to submit with the CATP documentation and say after the 30 days they rebid the services and encumbered a CFR200 compliant contract. Chairman Lockley asked who is doing this work now. Mrs. Brownell said no one as they cancelled the contract and task order as soon as they knew there was a problem and that put them inside the 30 day deadline. Chairman Lockley asked who is going to pay CDR Maguire. Mr. Pierce explained for the first 30 days they can act on an emergency basis so the existing contract is valid but they cannot go beyond 30 days. He said the contract was cancelled before the 30 day period was up so it is reimbursable as they were acting as an emergency. He reported CDR Maguire signed the cancellation and it is a voluntary cancellation. He said because there was an error the county



must now go back and correct the error and that is what Mrs. Brownell is asking for so the county will have a new contract and select a vendor going forward. Mr. Pierce stated the 30 days is covered as that is within the window FEMA allows for emergency procurement to occur. Chairman Lockley asked how much the debt is. Mr. Pierce reported they do not have any invoices but he was told verbally that the debt is around \$30,000. Attorney Shuler clarified Mrs. Brownell is asking to ratify the termination of the contract and request authorization to move forward with the RFP solicitation. Mrs. Brownell answered yes; they are in the process of reviewing RFP's that are in compliance. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to ratify the termination of the contract and authorize Mrs. Brownell to move forward with the RFP solicitation. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Mr. Pierce explained the county needs this service because the state previously wrote the PW's and then in 2016-2017 they cancelled their contract and left the counties to figure out how to address the PW's. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

#### Information Items:

1. Franklin County EOC Staff is still activated assisting residents after Hurricane Michael.
2. Capital Community Action coordinated with FCEM and opened the Donation Center for all Fire Survivors and the General public to facilitate the disbursement of the donated goods from the Fire.
3. Franklin County Emergency Management (FCEM) office is working closely with our Volunteer organizations to ensure that all the unmet needs of the community are being taken care in regard to Hurricane Michael and the Eastpoint Wildfire.

The meeting recessed at 11:00 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

#### Jason Shoaf-Triumph Board

Mr. Shoaf stated he was born and raised 25 miles from here and rode out Hurricane Michael in Port St. Joe. He said Triumph Gulf Coast was here before the storm to try and bolster the economy in the 8 counties. Mr. Shoaf explained their staff has been in contact with county staff and want to know if any of their priorities have changed after the storm. He stated if there is anything the county needs assistance with such as ad valorem tax assistance which Triumph can help with. He reported Gulf County and Bay County lost a lot of their property tax producers and starting next year this will affect all the counties. Mr. Shoaf said he would also like to see Triumph assist with affordable housing even though it is not specifically mentioned in their mandate but he thinks it is something all the communities need. He stated as the local representative on the Triumph Board he will do his best to make any of the county's requests successful. Mr. Shoaf reported he mentioned to Mr. Pierce that one item specifically mentioned in the legislation that is eligible for Triumph funds is emergency equipment and helping the first responders with their equipment and Emergency Response Plans. He stated

the radios the Board was discussing may be worth looking into. Mr. Pierce reported Ms. Susan Skelton, Executive Director of Triumph Gulf Coast, also called him with this information. He said she pointed out there is a section in the Florida Statutes that if the equipment purchased is going to be county owned and part of the county's response then it may be eligible. Mr. Pierce explained the county has insurance for part of the cost and hopefully Triumph and FEMA funds to offset some of the cost. Commissioner Parrish asked if county staff is compiling a list of items that the county wants to apply to Triumph for. Mr. Pierce answered yes. Mr. Pierce asked if the Triumph Board needs the county to estimate how much tax loss the county expects when the request for ad valorem assistance is made. Mr. Shoaf reported Gulf County put together what they expect to lose and they are going to request 2-3 years assistance. He explained if the estimate is not right when the actual figures are determined then they could make an amendment. He reported this money will be coming out of the guaranteed portion for Franklin County so they are flexible. Mr. Shoaf said they would like to help if it means not raising property taxes on the citizens, businesses and homeowners. Mr. Pierce stated the letter he drafted before did not include the tax issue so he will revise the letter. He explained Ms. Skelton suggested the county get a letter in before the December Triumph meeting and he thinks the county needs to revise the letter to include the three items which are the equipment for their fire response, assistance with ad valorem tax losses they may have in the next couple of years and the airport as they are still having interest from a new industry that wants to move in. He explained this new industry will create new jobs and will come from a company out of state. He reported this is one of the things Triumph was interested in so the county wants to make sure they get some help with this item. Mr. Pierce reported Ms. Skelton has directed the Triumph staff to come here for a meeting when the applicant comes in from out of state. Mr. Pierce commented the Board has a draft of the letter and if they are satisfied with the letter they can approve it with the amendment of the three items. Chairman Lockley pointed out if people get a job then they will need affordable housing. Mr. Pierce agreed but said he does not have a concept in mind but he will add it as a possibility. Chairman Lockley said there is no need for jobs if the people do not have a place to stay. Mr. Pierce said the four items he will include are taxes, radios, affordable housing and the airport. Commissioner Boldt asked if this is an offer separate from the \$15 million that comes to the county on another level. Mr. Shoaf said this is part of that. He explained there is a minimum of \$15 million allocated to Franklin County to be spent on economic development projects the first year. He reported the amount then goes down to \$3.2 million per year for 15 years. Mr. Shoaf stated the money is to help the county create jobs and bolster the economy. He explained their economies are very similar along the coast and are either tourism or military and when the oil spill came it knocked everything out. Mr. Shoaf said the goal is to create another option so if one of the industries goes out it does not cripple the area. He went on to say they want to spend this money on anything that creates new job or diversifies to a different industry that is not so heavily dependent on tourism or the military. Mr. Pierce reported the School Board's request has already been approved. Mr. Shoaf was not sure about the amount but said they are hoping to come back with a terms sheet as programs like this are designed to help kids become industry certified to put them in a good position to earn a high wage and hopefully stay in the county. He said they do not want children migrating off because there are no opportunities here. Mr.

Shoaf stated he is excited about the opportunities with the school system. Mr. Pierce said he thinks the project is \$2-\$3 million. He explained this means there is already a claim on part of the money so the county must work within the framework. Mr. Shoaf reported the county could also get more money. Mr. Pierce agreed and said he is hoping the airport project may fall into the competitive field because it will be such a good opportunity for the whole region to succeed and they may be able to compete. Mr. Pierce stated the Triumph Board has already received \$300 million from the settlement and it comes in 4 different installments. He explained the first \$300 million is here and that has been dedicated to the Triumph Board. He stated in the dedication it said of the first \$300 million 5% goes to the impacted counties so that is where the \$15 million comes from. Mr. Pierce reported the next set will be 4% which will be \$12 million and assuming the money continues to go to Triumph in 2 years the next \$400 million will be available and the county will receive a guaranteed \$12 million. Mr. Shoaf clarified it is \$15 million the first year and then they skip one year (2018) and then beginning in 2019 it is \$3.2 million every year for 15 years. He stated the county does not have to spend the money this year and it will not disappear because it is earmarked for the county. He said the county could also get more money if there is a good project and they hope the county comes up with a project that needs more money and will bring a lot of jobs. Mr. Shoaf agreed affordable housing does need to be mixed in or the jobs will have to commute in. He reported they are also working with the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Management Group and Commissioner Parrish is on that group. He stated one of his goals as a Triumph Board member is to responsibly put money into the oyster industry to try and come up with a way to revitalize it and find a sustainable way to bring back the oyster jobs. Mr. Shoaf said a committee meeting was held and there were representatives from Apalachicola present. Mr. Pierce reported Mr. Steve Rash and Mr. Ward were both there. Mr. Shoaf reported lots of things are happening at Triumph from Franklin County but they are always looking for more projects. Commissioner Boldt questioned if Triumph favors multi bundling of a project where multiple entities work together rather than single entities. He explained they discussed the oyster industry but there are other industries that can be bundled together for a project request. Commissioner Massey said this is not working like they thought it would because other counties are not wanting to share. Mr. Shoaf said it is not multiple businesses joined together but projects that affect multiple counties would be very favorable. Mr. Shoaf stated it is a terrific opportunity and he does not know that they will ever see this much money specifically spent on economic development in our counties and with the flexibility they have been given to spend it. Mr. Pierce pointed out someone there has to be a responsible party as this is a loan. He reported some of the projects are specific to one county but the oyster industry is across the borders of the counties because oysters are grown all across the panhandle of Florida. He explained if they reach an idea that is a consensus of the group as a way for the future then it could apply to multiple counties. He stated the oyster industry does have hurdles to overcome and it may take a long time to find out the solution to the problems. Commissioner Boldt commented they also need a sponsoring umbrella and asked about the Small County Coalition. Mr. Pierce said it is too early to say but the Small County Coalition represents multiple counties and many of them do not grow oysters so they may not be the sponsor. Mr. Shoaf explained whoever can guarantee the outcome needs to be the responsible party. He went on to say the sponsor will

be whoever will create the jobs and sign for the money because it is a grant not a loan but there will be clawbacks on everything. He reported if the performance metrics are not met by certain times then someone will need to repay the money to Triumph. Mr. Shoaf explained they would not want a project to be approved by Triumph that would encumber Franklin County but Franklin County could not directly influence and control. He said they are looking at who the responsible party will be, how many jobs will be created by what year, how they are going to create the jobs and if they have enough money if the project fails. He stated they do not want anyone to fail but they want to be cautious with the dollars. Chairman Lockley asked how long it will be before Triumph releases some money. Mr. Pierce reported they are ready whenever the county submits a good project. Commissioner Jones stated he is supportive but asked how they will clawback on ad valorem assistance. Mr. Shoaf reported the legislation states they must have performance metrics and clawback provisions but it also allows for ad valorem reduction. He agreed the two are not the same and said he will have their general counsel at Triumph reach out to Attorney Shuler with the answer. Chairman Lockley asked what will happen if the people relocate, the county gets the money from Triumph for ad valorem taxes and then the people come back. Mr. Pierce explained the money would not be for individuals parcels but a set amount so the county does not have to raise taxes. He reported it would be for a set time and would taper off as the tax base recovers. Mr. Shoaf said he is only one vote on the Triumph Board so he cannot speak for the entire Board but he does not feel like the county would be responsible for people that move back. He reported the whole purpose is so the county would not have to raise property taxes because that will hurt economic growth. He said if Triumph can give money to help offset what the county lost in the storm to help businesses grow then that is what they would like to do. Mr. Pierce asked the Board to approve the letter for the Chairman to sign if they are satisfied with the contents of the revised letter.

**Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the revised letter and authorize the Chairman to sign the letter. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones said he would like to know what they are talking about when they refer to affordable housing. Mr. Pierce said the application would have to include the details. He stated they would just like to let the Triumph Board know this is an issue for the county. Mr. Shoaf said the Triumph Board is eager and committed to helping the county and would just like to know how they can help.

**Motion carried; 5-0.**

#### **Erik Lovestrand – Extension Office Director**

Mr. Lovestrand welcomed Commissioner Boldt to the Board. Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

6. At your September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting the Board authorizes Mr. Erik Lovestrand to accept a vehicle from the University of Florida for County Extension office official County use. The following formal statement has to read with Board action for the official record: *The University of Florida has assigned a 2012 Ford Escape, VIN# 1FMCODG7CKC37162 to the County Extension Department. The University of Florida shall retain ownership of this vehicle, however, should the county accept the vehicle to use, the county Extension*

*Department shall be responsible for all repairs, routine maintenance and fuel expense while the vehicle is in use.*

**Board authorization** to allow the Extension Department to accept responsibility for fuel expense, repairs and routine maintenance on the vehicle owned by the University of Florida while assigned to the department.

**Commissioner Parrish made a motion to allow the Extension Department to accept responsibility for the fuel expense, repairs and routine maintenance on a 2012 Ford Escape, VIN#1FMCODG7CKC37162 assigned to the County Extension Department but the University of Florida (UF) will retain ownership of the vehicle. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt questioned who insures the vehicle. Mr. Lovestrand answered UF. Commissioner Jones reported when this vehicle was discussed previously they talked about what was already in the budget for travel offsetting these costs with the vehicle. Mr. Moron agreed this is correct. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Lovestrand reported in relation to the renovation project on the facility at Mill Pond to relocate the Extension Office, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) has a contract with the county through December 31<sup>st</sup>. He explained in speaking with DACS and county staff they believe this project will go beyond that date. He reported all they need is a letter on county letterhead requesting an extension of time. Mr. Lovestrand explained this primarily relates to the bid process and finding a contractor under the circumstances with the storm which may slow this project down significantly. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to send a letter filing for an extension for renovation of the building.**

## **County Extension Activities November 6 – November 20, 2018**

### **General Extension Activities:**

- Extension Director participated in Florida Association of Natural Resources Extension Professional's Board meeting.
- Storm-related activities dominated this period again.
- Assisted clientele with disaster assistance information.
- Extension Director visited two freshwater ponds inundated by salt water to make recommendations.
- Extension Director participated in two-day CED Planning meeting for NW District.
- Extension Director worked in the UF/IFAS building to meet clientele at North Florida Fair.

### **Sea Grant Extension:**

- Participated in weekly conference call to coordinate Sea turtle lighting project work and plan assessment of storm damage.

- Conducting field visits with seafood industry clientele to gather information on storm impacts.
- Conducted field assessment of damage to shellfish leases.
- Participated in call to plan for presentations at 4-year review of Sea Grant program in Gainesville

#### 4-H Youth Development:

- Extension Director participated in judging 4-H exhibits at North Florida Fair
- Classroom materials and ribbons distributed to all three County Schools for the annual Tropicana Public Speaking Contest.
- Extension Director participated in 4-H Day at the North Florida Fair.

#### Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant conducting programs in local schools.

#### Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Extension Director visited properties to evaluate tree damage and make recommendations.

Commissioner Boldt stated the Carrabelle Airport has a weed eradication program that is failing. He explained the weeds are around the runway lights and marking systems and he asked if Mr. Lovestrand could provide some input on a product that may be used. Mr. Lovestrand agreed to provide assistance and asked for a contact person. Commissioner Boldt stated Mr. Tim Sullivan.

#### **Lisa Lance – Library Director**

Mrs. Lance reported she does not have any action items on her report.

#### **Updates (General):**

Friends of the Franklin County Public Library held the Annual Meeting November 14, 2018 at the Eastpoint Library while celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of the building. Many Thanks to Pam Tullous, FOL President, and all FOL Board members for hosting the meeting and the celebration. Through the efforts of the Friends many children's programs and services are available at both Carrabelle and Eastpoint.

Hurricane Michael Essay Contest is being sponsored by the Friends of the Franklin County Public Library. There are three divisions: Children, Teens, and Adults. Entries will be accepted through December 7 and can be dropped off at either the Eastpoint or Carrabelle branch. The complete information and rules are available at the libraries or on the website and Facebook. Winners will be announced December 14, monetary prizes will be awarded. Judges include author Marisella Veiga, who has published many literary and commercial publications, including a book in the library collection, *We Carry Our Homes with Us*, and she has been an English professor. Also, Dr. Richard A. Rettig who is retired from the Rand

Corporation and author of *Cancer Crusade* (Princeton University Press, 1977) and *False Hope* (Oxford University Press, 2007).

- All regular calendar programs are available at Eastpoint with the exception of the Master Gardener Program and the monthly Gardener Programs that will both reconvene in January.
- Carrabelle Yoga: temporarily meeting at the Senior Center, Mon – Wed, and Friday at 4:00

#### **Community Awareness Reminder:**

Adopted policies by the BOCC concerning Library Patron Rights & Responsibilities includes The County adopted policy, made effective January 2017 concerning public supported library services. As a reminder concerning children in the library, the policy states:

*Children under the age of 10 must have a parent/caregiver in the immediate vicinity of and in visual contact with the child. The assigned caregiver must be a responsible person and must carry emergency contact information. An exception would be children attending a library program without a parent/caregiver in the room. However, the parent/caregiver is expected to remain in the library building and immediately join the child at the end of the program. If a child in this age group is found unattended, library staff will attempt to locate the parent/caregiver in the library and inform him/her of the rules. If the parent/caregiver cannot be found, or if the child is found unattended again, then law enforcement will be called for assistance.*

We address this as a concern and ask that parents understand the need for the library to follow this policy. The main issue that is encountered is an older sibling, not of adult age, is made responsible for their younger sibling. The children under age 10 must have a parent/adult caregiver present while in the library.

#### **Holiday Schedule:**

- Franklin County Public Libraries will be closed Thursday, November 22, Thanksgiving Day.
- The DRC at the Carrabelle Library will be closed on Thanksgiving Day but will resume regular scheduled hours of operation on Friday, November 23.
- The DSA, Register Intake (RIC) Crew 14 currently available at the Eastpoint Library will be closed on Thursday, November 22, Thanksgiving Day.

#### **Children's Ongoing / Upcoming Calendar of Events:**

- Eastpoint: Teen Book Club, monthly for grades 6 – 12 (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month), 4:00
- Eastpoint: STEAM (ages 8-14), Thursday's at 4:00
- Eastpoint: Anime Club (ages 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) – style of hand drawn & computer animation most commonly associated with Japan Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays at 4:00
- Carrabelle: STEAM (ages 8-14) Thursdays at 4:00 - suspended
- Carrabelle: STEAM 2 (ages 5-7), twice monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 4:00 - suspended

### Monthly Adult Calendar of Events:

- Adult Gardening Programs: Suspended until January
- Basics of Better Living Programs: December Topic, Declutter Your Life
- Eastpoint Book Chat: Monthly, 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 1:30 (next meeting, December 4)
- Carrabelle Book Social: Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 4:30
- Carrabelle Yoga: Instructional, Monday's at 4:00, Video – Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday at 4:00 (temporarily meeting at the Carrabelle Senior Center)
- Eastpoint Yin Yoga: Tuesdays at 3:30, Monthly 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday's at 11:00
- Eastpoint Writer's Forum: Monthly, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday's at 1:00 (next meeting, December 19)

### DRC:

Eastpoint Branch: Registration Intake Centers (RIC) – Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Crew  
14

Hours of operations: Monday-Saturday, 9:00 – 5:00 pm

Franklin County Public Library – Carrabelle Branch activated as a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)

Hours of Operation: Sunday – Saturday, 8:00 – 7:00 pm

- FEMA (DRC) representatives to help with private individual assistance, HR representative available
- SBA representatives to help small businesses and homeowner, low interest disaster loans
- SBDC (FL Small Business Development Center) representative, Dr. Gerald Hinson.
- DEO (Re-employment assistance)
- Attorneys are available Carrabelle Public Library Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to offer guidance on legal issues related to Hurricane Michael

DRC - Carrabelle	DSA - Eastpoint	Carrabelle Library	Eastpoint Library
October 17 – 31 Attendance	October 17 – 31 Attendance	October 2018	October 2018
<b>4905</b>	<b>1194</b>	<b>5764</b>	<b>1783</b>

- Attendance, Nov 1 – 14, Carrabelle Library, 3548

Commissioner Boldt complimented Mrs. Lance and her staff for hosting the DRC. Mrs. Lance stated there have been nothing but positive comments and the public has been very appreciative of FEMA being in the area. She said the representatives are dedicated to what they do and are trying to see that anyone that needs assistance gets assistance. Commissioner Jones agreed with Commissioner Boldt and said Mrs. Lance and her staff being able to handle this along with running the library has been great. Mrs. Lance said her staff and volunteers have been a great help.

### Jason Puckett – Airport Manager

Mr. Pierce stated Mr. Puckett is not here.



## **Curt Blair – TDC**

Mr. Blair congratulated Commissioner Boldt and Mr. Jones and said he is looking forward to working with them. He presented the following report:

### **Collections:**

Attached is the most recent Collections Report. As you can see we show an increase through August of 6% for the year. We of course expect that October will be down a little, but not as much as we might guess. Most lodging facilities were back on line quickly, certainly by the end of October. A good number of rentals for the month were occupied by workers with the utility companies. Nonetheless, I would not be expecting much different than our 6% increase over last year.

Mr. Blair reported all the Visitor Centers are open and the Eastpoint Center is also hosting the FEMA group for the next few days.

### **Post Hurricane:**

Most of our lodging facilities are back in full force with only a limited number of rental houses staying off line for repairs. The TDC has dedicated additional resources for post hurricane marketing recovery with most of our resources directed at a strong spring market.

Mr. Blair reported the county has lost some restaurants and some are making adjustments for a variety of reasons.

Mr. Blair stated there is another vacancy on the TDC Board with a lodging provider-Mrs. Dianna Prickett. He said Mrs. Prickett has been on the Board almost from the beginning and she has not asked to be reappointed. He reported consistent with their policies they have started advertising locally for people to respond. He expected to get responses in time for their December TDC Board meeting and said they will provide recommendations to the Board at the second meeting in December.

### **Meetings:**

- Next TDC Board Meeting: **December 12, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the EPVC.**

Mr. Moron said at a previous meeting the Board discussed getting an updated list of the TDC members. Mr. Blair agreed to provide this list.

Mr. Blair thanked the Board for their work in selecting a TDC Administrator and said he will be happy to work with them in any way on the transition.

Commissioner Parrish stated there has never been a lodging provider representative on the TDC Board from Apalachicola. Mr. Blair said there is one now and that is Mrs. Kathy Robinson. He explained her company manages vacation rental properties in town. He said she filled the

vacancy left by Mr. Walter Armistead. Mr. Blair stated he understands the frustration but they can only respond to the people that apply. He reported with Mrs. Prickett's resignation they will not have a lodging provider on the TDC Board from St. George Island. Commissioner Parrish stated it needs to rotate so it reaches from one end of the county to the other end and is inclusive of everyone that wants to serve. He said the TDC Administrator should also make sure to include everyone in a cumulative effort. Commissioner Jones said he will do his best to represent everyone.

Mr. Pierce asked if Mr. Blair knows when the St. George Island State Park will reopen. Mr. Blair said he is not sure yet as they are still doing work. Commissioner Parrish reported they said it would not be long before they had some facilities open. He explained the campground has a few issues and they have removed most of the sand from the road but it is not completed. He said they will open what they can and then move to the facilities on the beach.

### **Ginger Coulter – Sheriff's Office – Inmate Medical Discussion**

Mrs. Coulter welcomed Commissioner Boldt. She explained it is the county's responsibility to pay for medical costs for inmates housed at the Franklin County Jail. She reported their inmate medical budget for 2017-2018 is \$145,000 and they have expended \$210,534.92. She stated they have outstanding bills in the amount of \$65,502.11 for a total of \$276,037.00 in medical claims. Mrs. Coulter requested the Board assume responsibility for up to \$65,502.11 to close out their budget year as they do not have any more money. She stated she has already been in contact with Mrs. Linda Phillips, Finance Director. Chairman Lockley reported the county must pay these bills. Clerk Johnson said the Sheriff's Department has an amount budgeted and it was overspent but this is out of their control. She stated Mrs. Coulter told Mrs. Phillips that the Sheriff's Department is expecting some FEMA funds and some insurance reimbursements. Mrs. Coulter agreed they received 2 insurance reimbursements and she applied them to some of the bills so it reduced the amount down from approximately \$80,000.00 to \$65,502.11. Clerk Johnson asked if there is another reimbursement pending. Mrs. Coulter said there is another claim that may be pending but the money would come directly to the county and they would not ask to keep the money as it would help to offset this expense. Clerk Johnson explained because this line item has been overspent for the last few years when the Board went through the budget process they have a line item to help cover these expenses. She stated Mrs. Phillips would like the Sheriff's Department to send any FEMA or insurance reimbursements they receive to replenish this line item or they will not have it next year. Mrs. Coulter said there is an outstanding FEMA claim pending which she discussed with Mrs. Phillips. She explained it is not a claim from Hurricane Michael as they have not had the jump start meeting yet. She estimated the outstanding FEMA claim to be around \$42,000. Clerk Johnson stated she hopes the Sheriff's Office is working with the State Attorney's Office and the Judge's Office to reduce the jail population and get the cases moving forward. Mrs. Coulter agreed and said inmate medical is one of the most stressful parts of her job. Clerk Johnson reported this expense is out of their control as the inmates are there and require medical attention. She requested the Board approve manual checks as part of their motion because they are not on the check

register today and because of year end. Commissioner Parrish asked if these bills are from last year's budget. Mrs. Coulter answered yes. Commissioner Boldt inquired if the \$42,000 will replenish the item. Mrs. Coulter explained the outstanding FEMA claim is 2 years old and they have never released the funding so the money would come back to the county. Commissioner Boldt said some of the medical bills can be negotiated. Mrs. Coulter replied they are negotiated. She explained they have contracts in place with Weems Memorial Hospital, Sacred Heart, Bay Medical and Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. She said they also have a third party negotiator for anyone outside of these agencies and they do not pay any of the bills at 100%. Chairman Lockley stated some people only get medical attention in the emergency room or in jail. Mrs. Coulter reported she already has one inmate in October of this fiscal year that has bills totaling \$177,669.00 and that is how uncontrollable this issue is. She reported this will be negotiated and the department has insurance so they can get some money back to go to future bills. Commissioner Massey asked if this person is still in jail. Mrs. Coulter answered no.

**Commissioner Jones made a motion to pay these bills and allow the Clerk's Office to make manual checks to pay the bills to close the year out with the funds designated for this item and for the Sheriff's Office to provide the reimbursement when they receive it.**

**Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.** Mrs. Coulter clarified it is a FEMA reimbursement of \$42,000. Commissioner Jones agreed that is the reimbursement. Mrs. Coulter said hopefully they will get the reimbursement from the last storm in this year's budget as they have had a lot of overtime and they need to replenish that line item. Commissioner Jones commented FEMA is not the quickest entity they deal with. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

#### **Amy Ham-Kelly – Planning & Zoning – Report**

Mrs. Kelly did not have a report.

#### **Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report**

Clerk Johnson presented the following report:

1-) For information, I sent a letter to Governor Rick Scott on Franklin County's behalf documenting the effects from Hurricane Michael and requesting financial assistance from the State. Alan Pierce and my finance staffer, Erin Griffith provided the information needed for the letter. A copy of the letter follows:

**MARCIA M. JOHNSON**

FRANKLIN COUNTY  
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

33 MARKET STREET, SUITE 203  
APALACHICOLA, FL 32320



(850) 653-8861  
FAX (850) 653-2261

November 15, 2018

Governor Rick Scott  
Executive Office of the Governor  
Office of Policy and Budget  
The Capitol  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

RE: DR 4399- Hurricane Michael

Honorable Governor Scott:

Franklin County requests financial assistance from the state due to the impacts of Hurricane Michael. The County needs assistance in the form of:

- \*A waiver in the 12.5% local match for FEMA approved projects
- \* Expedite any request for reimbursements the county submits
- \* Replacement funding for the loss of tax base caused by the storm
- \*Any mutual aid that has been and will be requested by Franklin County through the State's WebEOC will be reimbursed directly by the State of Florida to the responding entity, as long as the reimbursement request and related documentation is complete.
- \*Franklin County did receive items from the state EOC that were not requested, and Franklin County requests assistance in resolving any reimbursements due to unrequested aid.

The county has extremely limited financial resources and the above listed pressures on the county's new fiscal budget were not expected, and were not considered when developing the budget over the summer.

Please consider the following points:

**1. County Disaster and Costs:**

\*The county's preliminary insurance claim is estimated between \$2.2M and \$3.5M. This estimated claim involves some 98 structures throughout the county. The county insurance has a windstorm deductible that will have to be paid by the county. The deductible will be applied to each insured location, so, as an example, the windstorm deductible for the county owned hospital will be some \$150,000. That is just one location and the 98 structures are at dozens of locations. The total deductible burden has not yet been calculated.

\*The county has significant damage to roadways that is not covered by insurance. As an example, Alligator Drive, a county road servicing some 250 homes, suffered major damage. The rough estimate of damage is \$4M for this one road alone. Without a waiver of the FEMA local match, the county's share of rebuilding the road using a \$4M estimate will be \$500,000.

The county probably has another \$2M in other road damage which will require another \$250K in matching funds that were not anticipated in the budget.

\*The county has significant damage to other facilities not covered by insurance, such as some 23 dune walkovers providing public access to various beaches. All of the walkovers suffered some form of damage. An estimate has not been compiled but it could easily be \$2M, for which the local match would be \$250K.

\*The county has already incurred extensive overtime costs, which was unbudgeted and decreases available cash to fund regular operations. As an example, the county workforce was paid \$99,500 in overtime for the month of October. This figure does not include any overtime generated by the Sheriff's Office, which we know is considerable.

\*There has been widespread damage to rental houses in our beach front areas. The tourist industry is the largest sector of our economy and it will be months before most of those houses are back on-line.

\*The Apalachicola Bay oyster industry has been in severe decline these last few years, and Hurricane Michael has done additional damage to the oyster bars. The state of Florida has not released any assessments yet, but there has been virtually no oyster harvesting since the storm. Most seafood loading and unloading facilities were damaged by the storm. The storm surge has been estimated at 11 to 12 feet, which is the highest storm surge recorded in the last 50 years in Franklin County. Waterfront structures that had survived every other hurricane were severely damaged by Hurricane Michael. The seafood industry is our second largest industry, and this storm will put many of these workers out of work. Many seafood workers are considered independent contractors and are not eligible for unemployment compensation.

## **2. Cash Flow**

\*Cash flow will be a critical issue as recovery work progresses. Franklin County has limited working capital to fund employee disaster payrolls, emergency protective costs, insurance deductibles, mitigation repairs, along with regular payroll and normal operating expenses. It is not beyond reason that Franklin County could fall into a state of financial emergency as defined in 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

## **3. Assessment of available resources**

\*Franklin County is a "Fiscally Constrained County" as defined in Florida Statute 218.67. Franklin County's assessed millage rate for FY 2018-2019 is 6.2679 mills., which was anticipated to generate \$11.847M before Hurricane Michael. The Franklin County Property Appraiser has estimated \$35M in structural damages to buildings on the tax roll, and she has said there is a yet to be calculated reduction in property value due to extensive erosion and storm surge. The tax roll for future years will likely see

a reduction, and the collection of property taxes this year will be delayed in many cases adding additional hardship to the county cash flow.

\*Unemployment, underemployment, and economic hardship will severely damage the local economy for years.

\*Franklin County is included in the "Rural Areas of Opportunity" (RAO) by the Florida Legislature, Florida Statute 228.0656(7).

\*The county has waived all building fees related to storm repairs caused by Hurricane Michael.

\*The Franklin County Tax Collector is waiving service fees for the replacement of titles and some driver licenses fees in accordance with the State of Florida, Office of the Governor, Executive Order 18-276.

#### 4. Budgetary Information

\*County assessed millage- 6.2679 mills

\*General Fund- The current cash balance is \$5.484M. FY 2018/2019 budgeted reserves for General Fund is \$1M (Yes, only \$1M!) These funds will be needed to meet the revenue shortfalls in ad valorem tax collection, as well as the increased expenditures related to hurricane recovery, which includes insurance deductibles.

\*General Fund- FY 2018/2019 budgeted revenue is \$7.777M, and budgeted expenditures are \$10.117M.

#### 5. Other information

\*Franklin County is a small rural county with a population of approximately 12,009. Every part of the county was impacted by Hurricane Michael. And, worse, parts of the county were impacted by Hurricane Hermine (2016) had still have not fully recovered from that previous storm.

It is critical for Franklin County to receive assistance and relief from the financial burden caused by Hurricane Michael. If you should have any questions or need further information, please contact me at [mmjohnson@franklinclerk.com](mailto:mmjohnson@franklinclerk.com), or call me at 850-653-8861, ext 103.

Sincerely,



Marcia Johnson,

Clerk of Court and Financial Officer to the Board of County Commissioners

Cc: Franklin County Board of County Commissioners

Cynthia Kelly, Director, Governor's Office of Policy and Budget

Mr. Pierce stated the letter is the basis to try and get a waiver. He explained they are following a format that another county developed and all the impacted counties are sending this type of letter from the Clerk's Office showing the significance of the storm. He stated they are hoping to get a positive response and get a waiver from FEMA and assistance with expediting reimbursements because the county will be out thousands of dollars until they receive the reimbursements. Clerk Johnson said she will inform the Board when she hears from the Governor.

2-) I have 4 resolutions for adoption on unanticipated revenue as part of the end-of-the-year bookkeeping that involve funds that weren't included in your initial budget last year because we didn't know at the time they would be received. All the funds were spent. Approval is needed to comply with Florida Statutes 129 to incorporate these funds into your budget. **The 1<sup>st</sup> resolution** deals with \$15,000 received from Duke Energy for the payment of expenses relative to the Sea Oats Initiative Grant. The money was put in account 001.20.572.5203, General Fund –Sea Oat Project Operating Supplies. **The 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution** deals with \$59,950 received from the Florida Dept. of Transportation for payment of expenses relative to the Airport Economic Development Project. We put the money into account 170.74.540.3100, Airport Fund – Professional Services. **The 3<sup>rd</sup> resolution** deals with \$33,750 received from the Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection for the payment of expenses relative to the removal of derelict vessels. We put the money into account 143.43.539.4600, Boating Improvement – Repair and Maintenance. **The 4<sup>th</sup> resolution** deals with \$374,000 received from the Florida Division of Emergency Management for the payment of expenses relative to the Residential Construction Mitigation Grant Program. We put the funds in the Emergency Management area as follows: \$2,000 into account 001.45.525.3100, Professional Services; \$10,000 into account 001.45.525.5200, Operating Supplies, \$1,760 into account 002.45.525.6400, Machinery and Equipment, \$12,851 into account 002.45.525.7100, Principal, and \$347,389.00 into account 001.45.525.8200, Aid to Citizens.

**On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the Resolutions, as follows:**

**RESOLUTION  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has received unanticipated grant revenues in the amount of \$15,000.00 from Duke Energy for the payment of expenses relative to the Sea Oats Initiative Grant, and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

001.20.572.5203 Sea Oat Project Operating Supplies      \$ 15,000.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$15,000.00 in the GENERAL FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 20th day of NOVEMBER 2018.

s/Noah Lockley  
Noah Lockley, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Marcia M. Johnson  
Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Court

**RESOLUTION  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has received unanticipated State grant revenues in the amount of \$59,950.00 from the Florida Department of Transportation for the payment of expenses relative to the Airport Economic Development Project, and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

170.74.540.3100 Airport - Professional Services \$ 59,950.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$59,950.00 in the AIRPORT FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 20th day of NOVEMBER 2018.

s/Noah Lockley  
Noah Lockley, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Marcia M. Johnson  
Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Court

**RESOLUTION  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has received unanticipated State grant revenues in the amount of \$33,750.00 from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the payment of expenses relative to the removal of derelict vessels and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:



143.43.539.4600 Boating Improvement – Repair & Maint. \$ 33,750.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$33,750.00 in the BOATING IMPROVEMENT FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 20th day of NOVEMBER 2018.

s/Noah Lockley

Noah Lockley, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Marcia M. Johnson

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Court

**RESOLUTION  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has received unanticipated grant revenues in the amount of \$374,000.00 from the Florida Division of Emergency Management for the payment of expenses relative to Residential Construction Mitigation Grant Programs, and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

001.45.525.3100	Emergency Management - Professional Services	\$ 2,000.00
001.45.525.5200	Emergency Management – Operating Supplies	\$ 10,000.00
001.45.525.6400	Emergency Management – Machinery & Equip.	\$ 1,760.00
001.45.525.7100	Emergency Management – Principal	\$ 12,851.00
001.45.525.8200	Emergency Management – Aid to Citizens	\$ 347,389.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$374,000.00 in the GENERAL FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 20th day of NOVEMBER 2018.

s/Noah Lockley

Noah Lockley, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Marcia M. Johnson

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Court

**ACTION NEEDED: MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTIONS ON UNANTICIPATED REVENUES**

3- ) **For action:** the Finance Department needs the following budget amendments approved to amend the last year's budget. The budget amendments move budgeted values from one line item to another.

Line Item Budget Amendment Requests:

1. The budget amendment below is needed to budgeted expenditures from the infrastructure line item to the repair and maintenance line item in the Boating Improvement Fund. The derelict vessel removal grant had a local match responsibility of 25% and this amendment funds the match.

DECREASE 143.43.539.6300	Boating Improvement Fund –Infrastructure	\$ 11,250.00
INCREASE 143.43.539.4600	Boating Improvement Fund –Repair & Maint.	\$ 11,250.00

2. The budget amendment below is needed to move line items within the Airport Fund budget to cover the Airport Manager's Contract and also fuel expense for the mowers.

DECREASE 170.74.540.4600	Airport Fund – Repair & Maintenance	\$ 10,947.00
DECREASE 170.74.540.4500	Airport Fund – Insurance	\$ 329.00
INCREASE 170.74.540.3401	Airport Fund – Contract Services	\$ 8,044.00
INCREASE 170.74.540.5200	Airport Fund – Operating Supplies	\$ 3,232.00

3. The budget amendment below is needed to move line items within the Mosquito Control Fund to cover the pesticide for the additional spray truck driver which was approved at the August 21, 2018 meeting.

DECREASE 142.42.562.2400	Mosquito Control – Workers Compensation	\$ 2,197.00
DECREASE 142.42.562.5200	Mosquito Control – Operating Supplies	\$ 6,000.00
DECREASE 142.42.562.5210	Mosquito Control – Gas, Oil	\$ 2,000.00
DECREASE 142.99.584.9600	Mosquito Control – Reserve for Contingency	\$ 6,944.00
INCREASE 142.42.562.1200	Mosquito Control – Regular Salaries	\$ 2,603.00
INCREASE 142.42.562.1400	Mosquito Control – Overtime	\$ 2,519.00
INCREASE 142.42.562.5220	Mosquito Control – Pesticides	\$ 12,019.00

• **ACTION NEEDED: MOTION TO APPROVE THE LINE ITEM BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the budget amendments.**

**4- ) Board action is requested to authorize the Chairman to sign the auditor's engagement letter. Pursuant to the procedures outlined in Florida Statutes, Roberson and Associates was ranked #2 in the audit RFQ process. Negotiations in regard to the available budgeted funds failed with the firm that was ranked #1 and pursuant to statute, negotiations moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked firm and Roberson and Associates has agreed to perform the audit within the budgeted funds and have prepared the engagement letter.**

**On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman to sign the auditor's engagement letter.**

The meeting recessed at 12:06 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:16 p.m.

**Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report**

Mr. Pierce read the following report:

- 1- Provide Board with a complimentary letter written by Mr. Ben Huston, Bald Point resident, thanking Mr. Fonda Davis, and Mr. Lamar Hardy for assisting him after Hurricane Michael.
  - 2- Inform the Board that FDOT has recognized that because of all the hurricane recovery work general contractors, who would otherwise be bidding on new construction like the airport access road, are not taking on new work. FDOT has extended the grant contract for the new airport access road so that the county will advertise for that project in January, 2019. The plan had been to open bids November 20.
  - 3- Board action to authorize the submission of a Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP) application for the acquisition of the remaining Capital City Bank lot on Alligator Point, and the submission of applications to acquire the Alligator Point Volunteer Fire Department lot, and the two lots owned by the estate of Keith Sumner's parents. All of these acquisitions are critical to improving/repairing Alligator Drive. I have been advised by the state Hazard Mitigation Office that all costs associated by these acquisitions will be covered by grant funds. Mark Curenton is finishing the applications and when they are complete he will put them in the Board file. Board action.
- Mr. Pierce stated the Capital City lot that the county is acquiring has been looked at by the volunteer fire department as a location for their new project but he asked the Board to make the acquisition application while the fire department works this out. He said he has been told the volunteer fire department has funds to buy the property but it is possible the county will buy it and get an allowance from FEMA to allow the volunteer fire department to use it so they do not have to spend any money or the county buys the lot and the fire department will not be able to use it as it was bought for vacate land. He stated the county needs to move forward in the event the fire department decides this is not the best sight for them. Mr. Pierce explained the risk the fire departments has is the site is still close to a vulnerable area. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the submission of the HLMP application for the acquisition of the remaining Capital City Bank lot and the two lots owned by the estate of Keith Sumner's parents.**
- 4- Inform the Board that the Planning Office has received positive response to the 99 letters sent to Alligator Point property owners in the acquisition area. The applications the Board has approved in the item above are two of the highest priority parcels, but at some point the Board might have to prioritize applications depending on how much money the state says is available. The letter gave property owners 30 days to contact Ms. Whitney Barfield to declare an interest in selling, so probably at the first meeting in January the Board will receive a full report on how many property owners have responded.

Mr. Pierce reported late on Friday he and Commissioner Parrish received a telephone call to get to Alligator Point because state officials with the Department of Emergency Management were going to look at the situation. He stated they met with representatives and they were very supportive of property acquisition on Alligator Point. He stated they believe the most likely outcome of this hurricane is that the road gets relocated inland on top of private property. Mr. Pierce explained to move the road that has been damaged there are at least 16 lots and 14 houses that would need to be acquired and one does not want to be acquired. He reported they are supportive of getting enough funds to acquire the property to get the road relocated. Mr. Pierce said they had no comment about whether FDOT will ever show up or the Governor is going to give allowance to have state funds spent there. He stated they would not comment except to say they felt like acquisition is the way to go. Mr. Pierce reported if the road is moved inland then they will have less problems getting the road built there but it could be several years before they complete negotiating with the property owners and during this time the road is on the beach and subject to being blown out again. He explained there is a period of time when the county can use FEMA money to fix the road but at some point it stops becoming an emergency to FEMA because the storm is over and then the county is stuck with the costs. He said this is a bad situation and the only fast solution is for the State of Florida to come in with their resources and help maintain the road. Chairman Lockley stated they need a bridge. Commissioner Boldt explained in the meantime they are doing their homework and providing responsibility and management of the issue and the citizens are going to lobby them to take over this road. Mr. Pierce said there is not a short term solution in sight.

5- Provide Board with copy of letter to the Governor directed to be sent at the Nov. 6 county commission meeting.

6- The Board received a letter from the TRIUMPH Board on October 25 encouraging the Board to re-visit its TRIUMPH funding requests because of the devastation caused by Hurricane Michael. I have had several communications with TRIUMPH staff, and TRIUMPH really encourages the Board to submit projects related to the airport. To that end I have drafted a letter for the Board to send to TRIUMPH informing them that the county will be submitting some airport projects. At this time, Centric Aviation, the airport FBO, has given me a proposal, and I am working with another prospective proposal for the airport as well. I hope to be able to provide a more complete report of the airport proposals at the next Board meeting, but I request that the attached letter be sent now. I have spoken to Ms. Susan Skelton, TRIUMPH Executive Director, and she encourages us to send the letter. The TRIUMPH letter and my recommended response are attached. Board action.

#### **Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report**

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.

2. The Board addressed this item during the Road Department report.
3. During your November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff read aloud the names of the firms that responded to the Request for Qualifications for the design of CR67 Widening and Resurfacing from Highway 98 to the Crooked River Bridge project. These submittals were sent to a review committee for ranking and Dewberry was ranked #1, Genesis was ranked second, Gresham Smith third, and Baker fourth. **Board action** to accept the rankings and authorize staff to start contract negotiations with Dewberry, the #1 ranked firm.

**On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to accept the rankings and authorize staff to start contract negotiations with Dewberry, the #1 ranked firm.**

4. Board of Adjustment didn't meet in November as there were no variance applications submitted prior to the deadline, however the November Planning and Zoning meeting was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. Volunteers are still needed to serve on both Boards. Ms. Nancy Deal had expressed interest on serving on the Planning and Zoning Board a few months ago but had an application in front of that Board at the time so could not be appointed. That application has been approved by both the Planning and Zoning Board and the County Commission so Ms. Deal request to serve can now be considered by this Board. If appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Ms. Deal would serve as an alternate for at least three months and then changed to one of the regular seats. **Board discussion/action.**

**On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Ms. Nancy Deal to the Planning & Zoning Commission.**

5. On another Zoning matter, staff has been working a zoning complaint at 144 Apalachee Street in Lanark Village. There is a travel trailer, at this address, connected to water and power and is allowing sewer to be dumped on the property, which is a violation of both County and State Health Department rules and regulations. Staff has sent two certified letters to the property owner requesting corrective action with no results and has received numerous complaints from the neighbors. **Board action** to forward this violation to Attorney Shuler for further action.

**Commissioner Parrish made a motion to forward this violation to Attorney Shuler for further action. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Commissioner Parrish asked if the state health department should go out there and find them in violation. Attorney Shuler responded they already did but he is not sure what will result from it with the health department. He explained he did not want to move forward with enforcement without action from this Board. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

6. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.

7. Mrs. Deborah Belcher, President of Roumelis Planning and Development and the County's CDBG Administrator, would like to contribute \$50,000 to the County. One of the reasons for this contribution is to compensate County for staff time for gathering information and distributing applications to residents during the Eastpoint Limerock Wildfire recovery and another is to provide a source of revenue for the County to contribute the required \$50,000 leverage to the Eastpoint Limerock Wildfire CDBG project, without having to use the County's very limited SHIP funds. **Board action** to accept the contribution and authorize the Chairman's signature on the accompanying agreement, contingent on Attorney Shuler's final review of the agreement.

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to accept the contribution and authorize the Chairman's signature on the accompanying agreement contingent upon Attorney Shuler's final review of the agreement.**

8. The Board, at your July 3<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting, authorized Mrs. Whitney Barfield, the County's Assistant Grants Manager, to attend the Florida Rural Economic Development Summit from October 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. This summit was postponed due to Hurricane Michael but has been rescheduled to February 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 2019 and Mrs. Barfield is planning to attend.
9. Inform the Board that Weems Memorial Hospital is now offering scholarships to EMT/Paramedic students. Attached to my report is an email that lists some of the scholarship requirements and a link to the application. Mr. H. D. Cannington, Weems CEO, will be at one of your December meetings to provide an update on operations, recovery, the new building project, and future management.

Chairman Lockley said he would like to see this project get started next year.

10. Attached to my report is the October ESF-15 report submitted by Capital Area Action Agency. Let me know if you have any questions.
11. Attached to my report is a copy of the SHIP program's advertisement accepting applications for FY 2018/2019 Down Payment Assistance, Emergency Repair, and Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation programs. The application period for the Owner-Occupied Repair program will begin on January 2, 2019 and end on January 31, 2019. If you have any questions let me know or do not hesitate to contact Ms. Lori Switzer, your SHIP Administrator.

Chairman Lockley asked where the office is. Mr. Moron answered she is transitioning from the old high school to the Armory.

12. Ms. Jennifer Laxner, Florida Association of Counties' Digital Communications Coordinator, informed the County that one of our pictures submitted for the FAC

calendar contest was selected for the 2019 calendar. TDC coordinated the collection and submission of the pictures on behalf of the County. All of the counties that were selected will be recognized at the Legislative Conference on Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup> during the Closing Session Breakfast.

Mr. Moron stated Mr. Davis texted him because he forgot to mention he is on vacation next week and Mr. Albert Floyd will be the contact person for Solid Waste, Animal Control and Parks & Recreation.

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to buy three more shirts for the Building Department employee, Planning & Zoning Department employees and Commissioner Boldt.**

**Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.** Mr. Moron stated the place the county got the shirts from before is no longer there as the storm destroyed it.

Commissioner Massey suggested the Board use the services of a business in Eastpoint. Mr. Moron agreed to contact the business. Chairman Lockley asked for the names of the Commissioners to be placed on the shirt. Mr. Moron agreed to include the names on the shirts. Commissioner Boldt asked if the names could be printed on the right side of the shirt.

#### **T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report**

Attorney Shuler reported a budget increase from \$5,000 to \$7,000 has been requested for Mr. Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental, to respond to the complaint about the soccer field being constructed at D.W. Wilson Field. He stated the emails are attached but Mr. Garlick explained the reason is because the neighbor keeps scrutinizing and complaining to the Northwest Florida Water Management District and he has to provide additional oversight that he might not otherwise have to provide. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to increase the budget for Mr. Garlick from \$5,000 to \$7,000. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley asked if it is the same neighbors. Attorney Shuler answered yes. Commissioner Boldt asked if the Board is approving the \$2,000 increase just because they have a relationship with Mr. Garlick. Attorney Shuler said the decision is up to the Board but Mr. Garlick is telling him he has expended the current budget of \$5,000 and based on the two additional reporting cycles that will be required it will be not to exceed \$7,000. Attorney Shuler explained sometimes you cannot guarantee what the costs will be. Commissioner Massey stated he wants the soccer field finished. Attorney Shuler reported they need the enforcement action by the Northwest Florida Water Management District completed and the only way to settle it is through the reports. Chairman Lockley stated this is going to be a continuous battle. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Attorney Shuler said the other item is the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) letter he received subsequent to the last meeting is included on his report. He stated there is a lot of information in this letter but the request is to appoint a person that can be the authorized go between for the county and the state for the debris pickup. He stated Mrs. Brownell has handled this locally but now they have an official request from the state. Attorney Shuler said he suggested in his letter that Mrs. Brownell is the most logical person to manage the response

and he will be the person to manage the contracts but it is a decision for the Board.

**Commissioner Parrish made a motion to appoint Mrs. Brownell. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones asked if Mrs. Brownell knows about this request. Attorney Shuler answered yes, he talked with her about this and some other items. He explained this is within the scope of her employment as the EOC Director and he does not know of anyone else that would be better suited to do this. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Attorney Shuler welcomed Commissioner Boldt to the Board and said he looks forward to working with him.

### **Commissioners' Comments**

Chairman Lockley welcomed Commissioner Boldt to the Board. He suggested Commissioner Boldt attend school to become a Certified County Commissioner. He said this will help him and is a good thing to do. Commissioner Massey stated Commissioner Boldt will also take his ethics class. Mr. Pierce reported the ethics class is a requirement.

Commissioner Boldt stated he appreciates the opportunity to be here. He said he sees his selection as a calling and the job as county commissioners as a ministry. Commissioner Boldt said this County Commission position is not about him but about access for the people to the county governance. He stated it is about providing availability for the people to have access to the county and he feels that is very important. He commented he looks forward to complimenting all of the Board members on the Commission and working as a team as they develop the work for the people. He went on to say he looks forward to the input, training and their tutorage.

Chairman Lockley brought into discussion being the alternate on the Consortium. Mr. Pierce agreed they need an alternate on the Consortium. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Chairman Lockley as the alternate on the Consortium.**

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

---

Noah Lockley - Chairman



Attest:

---

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts